

Hepatitis

Hepatitis is an inflammatory disease that affects the liver. It can cause cirrhosis or liver cancer.

Types of Hepatitis:



Viral hepatitis is caused by one of several types, the hepatitis A, B, C, D, and E viruses.



Alcoholic hepatitis is caused by excessive alcohol consumption.



Toxic hepatitis can be caused by certain controlled substances, chemicals, medications, or supplements.



Autoimmune hepatitis is when your immune system attacks your liver. The cause is unknown, but genetics may play a role.

Acute hepatitis of unknown origin: Its cause is still unknown; however, it is most likely a virus of the adenovirus family (adenovirus, perhaps type 41) for which children are not immune and causes more severe hepatitis than usual.

Symptoms: fever, tiredness, loss of appetite, nausea and/or vomiting, abdominal pain, dark urine, clay-colored stools, joint pain, and jaundice (yellowing of the skin and eyes).

Symptoms of infection can begin 2 weeks to 6 months after infection. Whereas, due to chronic infection, you may not have symptoms until many years later.

The symptoms detected in Acute Hepatitis of unknown origin include inflammation of the liver (acute hepatitis), jaundice, diarrhea, vomiting and abdominal pain; the absence of fever stands out and elevated levels of liver enzymes, such as transaminases, were detected.

Risk Factors:

- Having unprotected sex.
- Excessive alcohol consumption.
- Sharing needles or drugs.
- Consume contaminated food or water.

Diagnosis:

Hepatitis can be diagnosed through:

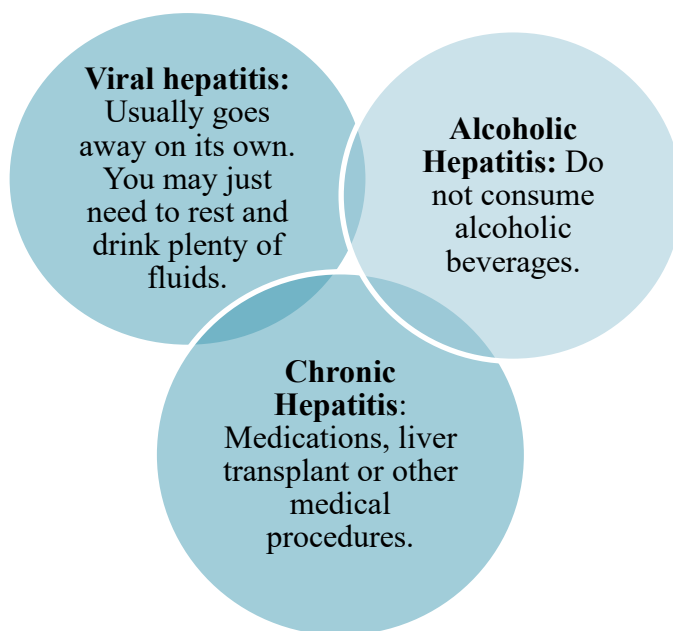
- Symptoms and medical history
- Physical exam
- Blood test
- Ultrasound and/or MRI
- Liver biopsy

Prevention:

- Do not consume alcoholic beverages.
- Get vaccinated against Hepatitis A and B.
- Autoimmune Hepatitis cannot be prevented.



Treatment



Social and Emotional Aspect:

For tips, tools, and resources on how you and your family can cope with emotional and physical concerns that occur during and after medical treatment, please visit your primary care physician or contact the following phone lines:

First Health Call
1-844-347-7801
TTY- 1-844-347-7804

APS Healthcare
787-641-9133

References:

Departamento de Salud de Puerto Rico. (5 mayo 2022) *Información importante sobre la hepatitis aguda de origen desconocido identificado en infantes, niños y adolescentes en 12 países.* Retrieved from: <https://www.salud.gov.pr/menuInst/download/1314>

Hepatitis. (2021). Retrieved from: <https://medlineplus.gov/spanish/hepatitis.html#:~:text=La%20hepatitis%20viral%20es%20el,el%20consumo%20excesivo%20de%20alcohol>

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